

**ABSTRACT****PHARMACEUTICAL**

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A method of treating an individual is described. The method comprise delivering to the individual an agent that is capable of modulating an intermediate conductance calcium-activated potassium ( $IK_{Ca}$ ) channel in the sexual genitalia of the individual; wherein the modulation of the  $IK_{Ca}$  channel by the agent is capable of mediating a relaxation of corpus cavernosal smooth muscle tone. The agent may be admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.

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